Message Text

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USOECD

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTILATERAL CONSULTATION AND SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM FOR SEA DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE

REF: (A) STATE 113939; (B) NE(77)8; (C) ROSEN-LAASE AND ROSEN-PROCHNIK 7/12 TELECONS

1. WE UNDERSTAND, PER REF (C), THAT OECD COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO CONSIDER DRAFT DECISION ON QTE ESTABLISHMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF A MULTILATERAL CONSULTATION AND SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM FOR SEA DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE UNQTE DURING WEEK OF JULY 18. FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT THERE MAY BE PROBLEMS OVER HOW TO HANDLE OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE BY SEVERAL MEMBER COUNTRIES TO SEA DUMPING OPERATIONS.

2. DURING APRIL 28-29 NEA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING,

SEVERAL MEMBERS SUPPORTED NORWEGIAN SUGGESTION TO INSERT PHRASE QTE THAT SEVERAL MEMBER COUNTRIES OBJECT IN PRINCIPLE TO SEA DUMPING OPERATIONS UNQTE IN PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH OF PREAMBLE TO DRAFT. COUNCIL DECISION. OTHER MEMBERS BELIEVE PROPER WAY TO RECORD SUCH OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE IS BY NOTE IN THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING. STEERING COMMITTEE LEFT FINAL DECISION TO COUNCIL.

3. USG OBJECTIVE IS TO HAVE THIS DRAFT DECISION ADOPTED UNAMIOUSLY BY THE COUNCIL ASAP WITHOUT CHANGES IN OPERATIVE PORTION OF TEXT. FURTHERMORE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL RPT ALL NEA MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSULTATION AND SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM. WE WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE FAVORABLE COUNCIL ACTION DELAYED OR PREVENTED BY DISAGREEMENT ON NON-SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION OF HOW SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES SHOULD REGISTER THEIR OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO SEA DUMPING. WE THINK THIS SORT OF FACTUAL STATEMENT DOES NOT BELONG IN PREAMBLE, SO WOULD PREFER ENTRY IN MINUTES. HOWEVER, WE COULD ACCEPT EITHER AN ENTRY IN THE MINUTES OR INSERTION OF APPROPRIATE PHRASE IN PREAMBLE TO THE DECISION. WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY NORWEGIANS, WHICH IS STATEMENT OF FACT, AFFECTS OPERATIVE TEXT OF DECISION, I.E, THE ARTICLES ESTABLISHING WITHIN THE NEA A MULTI-LATERAL CONSULTATION AND SURVEILLANCE MECHANISM FOR SEA DUMPING OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT NORWEGIAN AMENDMENT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE LONDON CON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION BY DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER.

4. MISSION SHOULD CONSULT WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS AND SECRETARIAT PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETING, DRAWING ON PARA (3) ABOVE, IN EFFORT TO FIND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE MEANS BY WHICH OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE BY SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES MAY BE REGISTERED WHEN COUNCIL DECISION IS ADOPTED WHILE ENSURING THAT ALL NEA MEMBERS APPROVE THE DECISION. VANCE

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